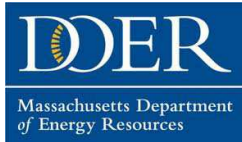


# Acton Public Schools and Acton-Boxborough Regional School District

## CASE STUDY



### SUMMARY

Led by Energy Advisor Kate Crosby, the school district promotes environmental awareness for students of all grade levels through courses focused on sustainability, district-wide events, and use of green building facilities. It is one of just fourteen school districts nationwide to receive the Green Ribbon District Sustainability Award.

### Teaching Green Principles

- ♦ Elementary school students learn about ecosystems by studying animal behavior and participating in nature walks
- ♦ High school students enroll in AP Environmental Science to learn about energy use, natural resources, and climate change

### Adopting Green Practices

- ♦ The school's bus system is unique: it uses low-sulfur diesel and contains an energy saving device that shuts off energy use after five minutes of idling
- ♦ The "Reverse Science Fair" is an opportunity for middle school and high school students to learn from volunteers about STEM and green technology
- ♦ High school students host an Energy Fair to teach sixth graders about energy use
- ♦ Two elementary schools have created a Walking School Bus program for safe transportation to school

Acton Public Schools and Acton-Boxborough Regional School District

Location: Acton, MA and Boxborough, MA  
Enrollment: 5, 424

**Acton-Boxborough Regional High School is one of only a few schools to win both a Blue Ribbon award for academic distinction and a Green Ribbon award for sustainability.**



### ENERGY COST SAVINGS AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS

- ♦ Acton-Boxborough cut energy use by 22% and electricity use by 18% in just three years
- ♦ The EPA has awarded Energy Star® certification to four schools
- ♦ 98% of high school students scored a 3 or better on the AP Environmental Science exam